## BEFORE THE APPEALS BOARD FOR THE KANSAS DIVISION OF WORKERS COMPENSATION

JOSE SANDOVAL	)
Claimant	)
VS.	)
	Docket No. 214,457
NATIONAL BEEF PACKING COMPANY	)
Respondent	)
AND	)
	)
WAUSAU UNDERWRITERS	)
Insurance Carrier	)

## ORDER

Claimant appeals the February 24, 1999 Order for Medical Treatment entered by Administrative Law Judge Pamela J. Fuller.

## Issues

Sometime after his injury, claimant relocated from Liberal, Kansas, to Matamoros, Mexico, and/or Los Indios, Texas.<sup>1</sup> Claimant wants to receive medical treatment closer to his current residence and seeks to have an authorized physician appointed in the south Texas area. The Administrative Law Judge ordered medical treatment to be provided, but also ordered that respondent choose the physician. Respondent authorized Dr. Marc-André Bergeron in Liberal, Kansas, and refuses to authorize a doctor in Texas. Claimant appeals contending he is entitled to receive medical treatment where he now lives.

The location for the authorized medical treatment is the only issue raised by claimant for review. Respondent raises the issue of the Appeals Board's jurisdiction to decide the medical treatment question on an appeal from a preliminary hearing order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the February 23, 1999 preliminary hearing, claimant testified he was living in Matamoros, Mexico, which is located across the border from Brownsville, Texas. But claimant's Application for Board of Appeals Review states that claimant lives in Los Indios, Texas, and he would like a physician there. Claimant's Brief on Appeal to the Kansas Board of Appeals, however, states "the Claimant has appealed this matter because the Claimant lives in Matamoros, Mexico and would like medical treatment in Texas."

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Appeals Board has limited jurisdiction on appeals from preliminary hearing orders.<sup>2</sup> The Appeals Board may review allegations that the Administrative Law Judge exceeded her jurisdiction, including allegations that the Administrative Law Judge erred on jurisdictional issues listed in K.S.A. 1998 Supp. 44-534a. The issue presented by claimant in this appeal is not subject to review at this stage of the proceedings.

**WHEREFORE**, the Appeals Board finds that it does not have jurisdiction to review the February 24, 1999 Order for Medical Treatment entered by Administrative Law Judge Pamela J. Fuller and that this appeal should be, and is hereby, dismissed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.
Dated this day of June 1999.
BOARD MEMBER

c: Seth G. Valerius, Topeka, KS Kerry McQueen, Liberal, KS Pamela J. Fuller, Administrative Law Judge Philip S. Harness, Director

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> K.S.A. 1998 Supp. 44-551(b)(2)(A).